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12, 1903, that I learned of its havoc at Kong Moon, Shui Hing City, Lok Lo, To Sing, and other small towns and villages along the banks of the West River. Four floating hospitals have been equipped by the charitable guilds of Canton and are now moored in the stream between Kom Chuk and Kong Moon. I also learned that on a passenger junk proceeding from Kow Chuk to Kong Moon several days ago 8 passengers died of the pestilence after an illness of two or three hours. I cabled to the Department to-day as follows, duplicating my dispatch to Minister Conger at Pekin:

Bubonic plague spreading rapidly among towns, villages, West River.

McWADE.

The disease seems to be more virulent this year than at any time within the past three years. Instead of the usual premonitory symptoms its victims are attacked with an active diarrhea, which is quickly followed by the bubonic swellings.

Reports from Hongkong—Plague and smallpox.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, May 27, as follows:

During the week ended May 23, 1903, 15 vessels, with an aggregate personnel of 1,103 crew and 1,358 passengers—261 cabin and 1,097 steerage—were inspected; 874 crew and 1,089 steerage passengers were bathed and 1,938 pieces baggage disinfected. Total number of plague cases for this period was 136, with 123 deaths—94 in city of Victoria and 42 in surrounding districts. Of this number there were 4 Europeans, 3 Indians, 1 Portuguese, and 128 Chinese. Two cases smallpox (Chinese) also occurred during the week.

Report from Shanghai.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, June 2, as follows: During the week ended May 30, 1903, there were inspected 5 vessels, 240 crew, 49 cabin and 156 steerage passengers. There were disinfected 9 pieces personal effects of crew and steerage passengers.

Communicable diseases were reported as follows: Enteric fever 1 case, diphtheria 3 deaths. The total mortality is reported to have been 1 foreigner and 144 natives.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port—Smallpox—Vaccination.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows: Week ended June 23, 1903. Present officially estimated population not obtainable; number of deaths, 3, including 2 from smallpox; prevailing diseases, smallpox and malarial affections. Number of cases of smallpox in hospital, 45. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, not good. The smallpox epidemic is now lessening. All cases are now promptly removed to the isolation hospital. A few cases of smallpox are developing at the various sub-ports in the adjacent lagoons. Compulsory vaccination is being carried out as rapidly as virus can be obtained from the United States. The fourth thousand points are now being used.